

their clothing and yet permit them to retain the flowing skirt.

The return must come, if it come at all, as all changes in feminine fashions do, in a mysterious and inexplicable way. We know when the change comes, but what was its origin or its predisposing cause no one can tell. Of one thing, however, we may be reasonably certain and that is, that if women in the civilized world once adopt short skirts for outdoor wear they will never revert to long ones.

PUGILISM.

A French painter takes the art of writing to the attempt to imitate nature to represent objects by means of rude pictures, but the style of pugilism would be less easy to determine. Man has not always been a "tool-making animal," and ages before the first savage conceived the idea of defending himself with a club or a stick, his forefathers must have fought after the manner of their Duwinnin relatives, with their claws and fangs. The larger species of our tree-climbing cousins can, indeed, dispense with cudgels. A gorilla can stun a leopard with a single blow, and Captain Charles Baldwin, in his description of the Natal hill country, speaks of a baboon that killed two hounds by snatching them up by their hind legs and swinging them in a circle till their bones cracked.

Even after the introduction of swords, boxing remained a chief test of physical prowess. A club might break or slip from the grip of its owner, but a victory won in a boxing or wrestling match could be secured as a conclusive proof of superior strength. The historian Xenophon is perhaps not quite wrong in suggesting that the physical degeneration of the Persian and their Asiatic neighbors inclined them to prefer dagger combats to pugilism. We find a similar preference among the modern Greeks and their South European neighbors, and exalted ethics were perhaps not the only motives that led to the temporary boyish pugilism among the British schoolboys. At the same time when the triumphs of Byron and Wellington marked the high tide of Anglo-Saxon supremacy, Lord Lytton treated the allied sovereigns to a series of boxing matches in his drawing-room, and Prince Lichenstein, in recording the applause of the distinguished assembly, remarks that "only the care of fashion could have led to the neglect of such sports in countries where their popularity is so almost universal."

In ancient Greece and Rome, pugilism was included in the education of nobles and princes as well as of military cadets. Proficiency in pugilism is mentioned among the accomplishments of numerous heroes as one of their chief claims to immortal fame; nay, the gods themselves were supposed to have opened their Olympic Club halls to several first-class boxers, and in an argument with Mrs. Grundy the admirer of a Grecian lion could have quoted the precedent of the gods.

Boxing was included in the programme of the *pentathlon*, the fourth one of the five athletic exercises of the Olympic games. The "six millionaires" that shook hands with the victor of the last New Orleans Olympiad would have been eclipsed in number and liberality by the enthusiasm that crowded around a champion of the Grecian arena. Egeus, a plucky pugilist representing the athletic school of Argos, defeated three rivals in as many successive hours, and was at once crowned from poverty to opulence by the magnificent presents which the hero worship of the spectators forced upon him before he had left the scene of his triumph. His return to his native city was attended by a procession of three hundred chariots, each drawn, like his own, by two white horses, wreathed with garlands and accompanied by troops of young men singing thyrsus chants that might have been decorated with memorable effect on the skull of a Mississippi sheriff trying to interrupt the festivities. Argemone, by the way, was the capital of a Grecian settlement in Southern Italy and the rival of Croton, where the athletic Milo once smashed the skull of a steer with a single blow of his fist.

From those colonies pugilism spread to Rome and remained for centuries one of the standard sports of the Circus Maximus. The best boxers came from Thrace and Sparta, but were finally knocked out of his history of the Gothic war, mentions a champion of that nation who engaged in a combat with a bear, flooring his hairy rival again and again, and at last breaking his jaw with a well-aimed blow of his fists, or, at least, though in the first round Professor Bull had dislocated one of his shoulders.

When Marcus Aurelius provoked a revolt by compelling gladiators to fight with swords, the trouble was compromised by allowing boxers to keep their iron knuckles. The historian tells us that the Roman Police Commissioners insisted on weighing the metallic fighting gloves, but there is no doubt that their use often led to fatal results, though at first the census was intended to protect the hand of the boxer rather than increase the force of his blows. The old Spartan fist rings were of leather, but professional pugilists soon added brass knobs, and at last brass bars that covered the hand like a shield and could be turned sideways and used with the effect of a small hammer. The story of Milo thus becomes less incredible. If we remember that in more than one well-established case the skull of a man was broken by a blow of the bare fist, in the Museo Borbonico of Naples there is a large collection of such boxing implements, some of them mere leather thongs with metal studs, others resembling short iron bars, and some of them covered with plates of pure brass, metallic rings or heavy brass hammer-heads with a metallic handle and resembling nothing so much as a something long with ugly sharp edges and a rather narrow bottom. In parrying a blow these fist-rings were turned fit side forward in striking the pugilist could use the hammer-head or one of the sharp corner points.

An athlete striking out from the shoulder with a five-pound laundry iron could not escape the censure of the Christian moralists, and the edict of the Emperor Theodosius adorned boxing matches, together with other sports of the Grecian arena, but the fun revived soon after, when the Arabs got hold of Southern Spain and substituted tournaments for clerical processions. The pastimes of the medieval chivalry were only a little less tawdry than the Roman arena games, and boxing matches in full armor often ended with knockouts of an incurable type, especially among the sport-loving Normans, who thought it a pity to pass a holiday without a life-and-death combat. A gang of these fisty adventurers were engaged by the ruler of the Byzantine empire, and their leader, the reckless Harold Hardrada, made his debut by fighting single-handed the four court boxers of his imperial patron, who entered the ring together, but were felled in short order by the gaunt Norwegian, who had to go down on one knee to get on the level of his prey antagonists.

Monk-princes of the Justinian type were indeed rather exceptional phenomena even in the darkest centuries of the middle ages. Otto the Great kept boxers to entertain his dinner guests. King Alfred of England and Richard III. were personally fond of taking a hand in the game, and the Emperor Sigismund repeatedly advised his young courtiers to settle affairs of honor with their fists rather than with poisons or swords. Sigismund, however, prevailed, at least in continental Europe, and gunpowder finally had the

merit of making a cool-headed marksman a match for the biggest bully. But in England, Ireland, Japan, North China and many parts of Northern Hindostan the popularity of pugilism was never wholly eclipsed. In Japan all professional wrestlers are b zers as well, and in the villages of the Robillia highlanders boxing matches form a favorite after-supper amusement. Father Hue, of Thibet mission fame, witnessed these sports on every fine evening for weeks together, and confesses that, barring the basting, he could see nothing objectionable in such trials of strength. After stepping back some ten or twelve yards the combatants would rush together, trying to upset or repulse one another, and then step back again for a breathing spell. Victory depended on the chance of pushing the adversary beyond a certain line, and the blows of the fighters were directed chiefly at the breast and shoulders. The British taboo of pugilism was broken by the Sayer-Hecan match, and international rivalry seems to have stimulated a revival of athletic sports all over Europe and North America.—S. F. Chronicle.

THE OLD MAID.

THAT IS TO SAY, A WOMAN WHO IS UNMARRIED.

Do you see the lady?
I do see the lady.
Who is she?
She is Miss Somebodyother.
Why not Mr. Somebody?
Because she has no Mr. attachment.
You mean she has no husband?
I mean she is unmarried; which is somewhat more comprehensive.
She is independent of men, then?
As independent as women ever are.
Aren't they all so?
They want to be; or they say they do.
Don't women always say what they mean?
Not always.
How is it in this instance?
This one is rich, and a rich unmarried woman can say and do what she pleases, regardless of the men, to a great extent.
She could marry then if she so desired?
Oh, yes, money is quite attractive to most men seeking wives.
Can't a poor woman marry if she wants to?
The woman doesn't live, I fancy, who has not had a proposal of marriage some time in her life.
Then why doesn't she marry?
A woman doesn't marry for the mere sake of marrying, as a rule.
As an exception, does she?
There are some exceptions.
Why?
Because some unmarried women, or their parents or guardians have an idea that it is not the proper thing to become an old maid.
An old maid?
Yes.
What is an old maid?
This unmarried woman is.
Are all unmarried women?
Yes, after a certain age; that is to say, people give them that name.
What age?
No definite figure has been fixed.
How old is this one?
Ask her.
What does she tell?
I never asked her.
There's nothing wrong in one's age, is there?
Not in a man's.
Is there in a woman's?
There must be, for they don't like to have it referred to in a mixed crowd.
They experience age, don't they?
Not unless they marry.
Then, why marry, if they have eternal youth unmarry?
I don't see it up.
Is an old maid a more desirable quantity in the human economy than an old bachelor?
Infinitely more or less.
Why?
Because an old maid is handy to have around the house.
In what way?
She's a woman.
But she has neither husband nor children?
That makes no difference.
Why doesn't she?
Because, having no special claim on anybody, everybody claims her as a present help in every kind of trouble.
Does she recognise the claim?
Ninety-nine times in a hundred.
How do you know?
I've seen families, father, mother, and children, dominated, consolidated and regulated by the benign influence of an old maid.
How does she effect it?
By having sense enough to know what to do, and energy enough to do it.
Then she ought to make a good wife?
Not necessarily, she is the missing link that the family needs.
Is the old bachelor any good in that line?
Once in a million times; by accident.
Aren't some old maids sour and ugly?
Yes, just as some wives are.
Then it isn't because they are old maids?
Not as a rule.
Doesn't the Bible say it is better to marry?
Yes, but "marry" in that instance doesn't mean the legal association of a man and a woman.
What does it mean?
It means marriage of heart and soul and mind and all perfect union.
Then a woman does right in not marrying because other people think she ought?
That does indeed.
The old maid may be happy then?
Quite so.
But what of the ties of love and family and all that we hear about among the married?
She doesn't have them.
But doesn't she?
Not more than hundreds of other things she thinks she'd like to have and doesn't, and still she gets along very comfortably and contentedly without them.
Doesn't her nature cry for it?
Not so much in practice as in theory.
Do old maids like men?
The right kind do.
What are the right kind?
Those who are cheerful and companionable.
The men you don't, do they?
Not one nobody else much.
Why is this?
They were born that way.
They wouldn't have been pleasant wives and mothers then, if they had married?
All the chances are they would not.
Doesn't disappointment in love sour one?
It does sometimes but it should not.
How can she prevent it?
If the disappointment is the result of a man's duplicity she should be thankful that one disappointment has freed her from a whole life of it, and if it is the result of a visitation of Providence she should accept her sorrow resignedly and let time do the rest.
Can a woman do this?
Millions have done it.
And have they been happy?
They have lived many years and have been a joy and comfort to all who have known them.
Disappointment in love is not, then, the worst thing that can happen to a woman.
Not by a great deal. If she keeps her joy to herself properly.
Do men like nice old maids?

Silly young men don't.
Why are they so?
Sensitive men.
Why don't they marry then?
Some do, and some would be glad to, but the old maids are content to let well enough alone.
Does an old maid run more risk in marrying than a young one does?
She is more likely to get a better man than the young one is, but she is less adaptable; and even the best man may prove unkind to her, except under favorable circumstances.
Why not?
She has been free too long.
How do you mean?
She has had only one person's wishes to consult. When a woman marries and tries to conduct her married life simply by consulting her own wishes, she stands a chance of butting her head up against several stone walls.
Isn't the life of an old maid very lonely?
Not if she tries to make it otherwise.
How can she?
By keeping on the sunny side and letting the roses bloom in her heart and the blue sky show in her face.
Won't wrinkles cast shadows after a while?
Never.
Why not?
Because the wrinkles are human and the sunshine is divine.
You would make her the subject of a poem, wouldn't you?
She is a poem.
Sentimental or otherwise?
Mostly otherwise; one of those poems you happen on in newspapers unexpectedly, and cut out for future reference.
But if every man thought thus, would there be any old maids?
It takes two to make a bargain.
You think then most old maids do not really care to marry?
That's about the size of it.
They are not so nice when they want to marry are they?
A man needs an accident policy when that kind comes around.
Why does that make such a difference?
It's against Scripture.
How?
The Scripture says, "Thou shalt not covet," or the nice old maid is the flower of the flock?
She's a daisy.—New York Sun.

SCOTT'S Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil with Hypophosphites is especially adapted to all conditions where the tissues are wasting away from inability to digest and assimilate ordinary food. The combined virtues of the Cod Liver Oil and Hypophosphites produce a marked effect in such cases. They restore the wasted tissues, create an appetite, make new blood, heal the inflammation of the throat and lungs, and increase the flesh. In short they form the finest combined food and medicine that can be given the invalid. Any Chemist can supply it. A. S. Watson & Co. (Limited), agents in Hongkong and China.—(Advt.)

To-day's Advertisements.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW. THE Company's Steamship

"NAMO," will be despatched for the above Ports on TUESDAY, the 31st instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1893. [1170]

FOR SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA. THE Steamship

"STRATHESK," Captain Foulds, will be despatched as above on MONDAY, the 30th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1893. [1169]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES. FROM NEW YORK AND SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship "STRATHESK,"

The above Steamer having arrived, Consignees of Cargo are hereby requested to send in their Bills of Lading for Counter-signature, and to take immediate delivery of their Goods from alongside.

Cargo impeding the discharge of the Vessel will be landed and stored at Consignees' risk and expense.

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1893. [1166]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

INFORMATION has been received from the Military Authorities that ARTILLERY PRACTICE from the Batteries will take place as under, daily, from the 1st to 30th November, 1893. (Sundays excepted), between the hours of 8 A.M. and 5 P.M.:

From Stonecutters' Island in Westerly and South-westerly directions.

From Lyman in North-westerly, Easterly and South-easterly directions.

All Ships, Junks and other Vessels are cautioned to keep clear of the ranges.

By Command, G. T. M. O'BRIEN, Colonial Secretary's Office.

Hongkong, 27th October, 1893. [1171]

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

CORPS ORDERS BY THE ACTING COMMANDANT.

No. 27.—Drill and Instruction will be carried out as under:—

WEDNESDAY, 1st November.—FIELD BATTERY.—7 P.M.—6 P.M. and Howitzer Drill for trained Volunteers at Murray Barracks.

Marching, Carbine and Firing Exercise for recruits at HEAD-QUARTERS.

All Members to Muster at HEAD-QUARTERS and fall in by Sub-divisions.—Uniform—Serge and Forage Caps. Officer on duty Lieutenant W. MACHILL.

SATURDAY, 4th November.—FIELD BATTERY Muster at Paddocks Wharf, at 2.30 P.M. for Musketry Practice in preparation for the Annual Course.

UNIFORM.—White with Helms, Carabine, Belts and Pouches. Ammunition will be served out at the range. Officer for duty Lieutenant A. CHAPMAN.

F. JERRARD, Acting Commandant, H.K.V. Corps.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1893. [1172]

To-day's Advertisements.

ST. JOHN LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 618, S.C.

A NEWMERGING MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, THIS EVENING, the 28th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1893. [1164]

WANTED TO PURCHASE A STEAMER, from 400 to 600 Tons Nett Register.

Apply to Mr. JOSE BUSTELO, Victoria Hotel.

Hongkong, 28th October, 1893. [1172]

Masonic.

ZETLAND LODGE, No. 525.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 1st November, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1893. [1166]

Intimations.

THOMAS GRILL ROOMS, (Corner of Queen's Road and Duddell Street.)

THE Underigned has always thought that such a place as this was the one thing needed to fit in between HOME, LIFE and the PRIVATE BOARDING HOUSE, providing it be First-class in every detail. A place where one may have his GRILLED CHOP or STEAK at any hour of the Day, up to 11 P.M.; or later if notice be given. He is also prepared to SUPPLY MEALS TO PRIVATE PARTIES per Menu or ORDER—the Parties sending Dishes, &c., for same—and Cash. Scale on application.

Monthly Board for One Person...\$35.00

Tiffin...\$15.00

AMERICAN FROZEN OYSTERS always on hand and served in every Style.

Breakfast...\$3.50

Tiffin...\$3.75

Dinner...\$1.00

SPECIAL TIFINS and DINNERS served in Excellent Style at short notice.

W. THOMAS, Proprietor.

Hongkong, 3rd May, 1893. [1168]

THE CHINA AND JAPAN TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED.

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A Very Large Stock of GENTLEMEN'S BOOTS and SHOES in BROWN and BLACK LEATHER, TENNIS SHOES and CANVAS WALKING SHOES. DAWSON'S CHRISTY'S HATS in BLACK, DRAB and BROWN.

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NAUTICAL and ENGINEERING BOOKS.

CARMICHAEL & Co., LTD. 15, Praya Central, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 18th October, 1893. [13]

SOUTHALL'S MOSQUITO CONES

The only remedy which has been found effectual in securing immunity from the attacks of Mosquitoes and other venomous insects.

By burning one of SOUTHALL'S MOSQUITO CONES in a Room before going to bed.

PERFECT REST & UNDISTURBED SLEEP ARE INSURED, as the fumes from the Cone drive away, stupify or kill all insect life, thus rendering Mosquito Curtains Quite Unnecessary.

These Cones are composed entirely of Aromatic Plants carefully selected for their insecticidal properties, and although destructive to insects, they are quite harmless to men and animals. The odour when burning is very agreeable, and hence they may be used in fumigating sick rooms, as the most delicate invalid can support the fragrance.

Manufactured Only in the Laboratories of Southall Bros. & Barclay, Birmingham, ENGLAND.

Sold in Boxes of 25 Cones by all Chemists and Storekeepers; and by A. S. WATSON & Co., Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Treaty Ports.

TO BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITING

ORIZA-VELOUTÉ SOAP

The best and softest soap

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Inventor of the GENUINE and accredited preparation ORIZA-OIL

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TO BE HAD OF ALL TRUSTWORTHY FIRMS

For Sale.

RANGOON OIL

WE are offering for Sale a special line of FIRST CLASS LUBRICATING OIL

consigned to us by a well-known Rangoon Firm. This Oil is the best and most suitable for lubricating guns of every description, military rifles, heavy ordnance, and all kinds of machinery and metal goods. It is very generally used in India and Burma by the leading railway and steamship companies, factories and mills, and by the military authorities.

A. S. WATSON & Co., LIMITED, THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

Hongkong, 27th October, 1893. [1166]

FOR SALE.

THREE BULL-TERRIER PUPPIES, good Breed, Black Points, age 8 weeks.

Apply to J. KENNEDY, Horse Repository.

Hongkong, 25th October, 1893. [1154]

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"THE TABLE WATER OF THE EAST"

For 1 dozen quarts, \$1.75, less allowance on empties returned to our Godowns, \$0.50. Net price, \$1.25.

For 1 dozen pints, \$1.00, less allowance on empties returned to our Godowns, \$0.25. Net price, \$0.75.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co., Sole Agents.

13, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 28th October, 1893. [1168]

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TO LET, WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

NO. 1, WOODLANDS VILLAS, Seymour

4 LARGE ROOMS. Moderate Rental.

Apply to D. W. CRADDOCK, Canadian Pacific Railway Company.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1893. [1147]

TO LET.

THE HOUSE, No. 30, ELGIN STREET.

Rent moderate. For terms apply at THE MEDICAL HALL.

Hongkong, 5th October, 1893. [1077]

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